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MAYOR

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**PRESS RELEASE
FOR
12 NOON**

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Middletown, CT --- Middletown South Fire District Fire Chief Ed Badamo today announced that the procedure to vent the natural gas that is currently contained in the Kleen Energy pipeline leading to their power plant will occur today.

Fire Chief and Incident Commander Badamo requested assistance from Algonquin Gas Transmission to work with Kleen energy's contractors to facilitate the venting of the natural gas contained within the approximately 800 feet of 12-inch diameter Kleen Energy pipeline. This procedure will be conducted under the coordination and direction of the Fire Chief/Incident Commander.

"Although these are not their facilities, based on their operating expertise, I have requested assistance from Algonquin Gas Transmission. They are providing operational access to their facilities and will be working with Kleen Energy's contractor to conduct this procedure which will safely eliminate natural gas from Kleen Energy's pipeline," said Badamo. Also on scene will be state, DPUC, State Fire Marshals Office, and South Fire District will have an engine and a crew on the property.

"This process poses no danger to the public. There might be a hissing or whistling noise as the gas escapes the pipeline and disperses in the air, he said. Nearby residents may also detect a natural gas odor," he continued.

Currently, the venting procedure is expected to start at 1:00 p.m. today and will continue for approximately two hours.